

CLAIMS:

1. A method of allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length, the recording medium having an associated directory (30), which directory (30) lists blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries, the method comprising the steps of
- 5 receiving a start position on the recording medium (step 21);
determining with the aid of the directory (30) the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position (step 22); and
displaying the directory (step 23), **characterized in that** the method comprises a further step
10 of indicating the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory (step 24).
2. A method according to claim 1, in which the start position is determined by a search algorithm.
3. A method according to claim 1, in which the start position is determined in
15 that start position input is received from a user.
4. A method according to claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the directory (30) is displayed in a text-only format.
- 20 5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the consecutive blocks are displayed so as to be discernable from the rest of the displayed directory.
6. A method according to claim 5, in which the consecutive blocks are indicated
25 by displaying a frame (31) around the consecutive blocks, highlighting or underlining the consecutive blocks, or by a color, font, character size or typography different from the other directory blocks.

7. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the predetermined length corresponds to an amount of recording time.

8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the

5 predetermined length corresponds to an amount of data.

9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the method comprises a further step (step 27) of calculating the difference between the lengths of the consecutive blocks and the predetermined length, and of displaying the difference.

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10. A module (12) for allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length, the module comprising memory means (13) for storing a directory (30) associated with the recording medium, which directory (30) lists blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries; and
15 processing means (14) connected to the memory means (13) for receiving a start position on the recording medium, and determining the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position,
characterized in that the processing means (14) are adapted to indicate the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory (30).

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11. A module (12) according to claim 10, in which the processing means (14) are adapted to determine the start position by a search algorithm.

12. A module (12) according to claim 10, in which the processing means (14) are

25 adapted to receive the start position input from a user.

13. A module (12) according to claim 10, 11 or 12, in which the processing means (14) are further adapted to display the directory (30) in a text-only format.

30 14. A module (12) according to any one of the claims 10 through 13, in which the processing means (14) are further adapted to display the consecutive blocks so as to be discernable from the rest of the displayed directory.

15. A module (12) according to claim 14, in which the processing means (14) are further adapted to indicate the consecutive blocks by displaying a frame (31) around the consecutive blocks, highlighting or underlining the consecutive blocks, or by a color, font, character size or typography different from the other directory blocks.

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16. A module (12) according to any one of the claims 10 through 15, in which the processing means (14) are further adapted to calculating a difference between the lengths of the consecutive blocks and the predetermined length, and to display the difference.

10 17. A video recorder system (10) including a module (12) according to any one of the claims 10 through 16.

18. A computer program product comprising data and instructions to be loaded into a computer, thereby enabling the computer to carry out the method according to any one of the claims 1 through 9.

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19. A data carrier provided with a computer program product according to claim 18.